

Tuesday - October 3, 1978

We had our Continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. The pleasant, hard-working proprietor took time to wave goodbye to us as we journeyed on our way. We were told that Rosenheim was the City of Roses. It has a population of 50,000. It was raining again this morning. The beautiful clusters of colorful flowers hanging from the window boxes were a cheerful sight this morning as we traveled through the German villages. We passed a U.S. Army Base 55 miles from Munich, the Isar River, a ski lift at Blimbach, a trailer court by a beautiful lake, and the German alps in Bickel and Kochel were some of the interesting sights along the way. It was still raining and we were nearing the famous and beautiful Castle Neuschwanstein. At Weilheim, we saw a Toyota factory. At Füssen Village, Fall had turned the leaves to gold and brown. Tony said the village of Büdingen has a good hockey team.

We could see a glimpse of the Neuschwanstein Castle as the motor coach stopped at the foot of a hill. It was still raining and it looked like a long walk up the hill to see the castle, so we decided to go up in a horse-drawn wagon. The price was five marks each, but we thought it was worth it, thinking all the time it would take us to the top. Well, not so! The carriage stopped two-thirds of the way up, so the driver could hurry back down and pick up more customers. We walked in the rain, but found it was very refreshing and a pleasant experience. As we entered the castle, we had a short wait for the guide. There were two long lines waiting for the tour. One line was for the English speaking people, and the other was for the German speaking people. The Royal Neuschwanstein Castle is beautifully situated high on top of a mountain overlooking the Starnberger Lake and surrounded by other mountains. King Ludwig II, King of Bavaria (1864-1886) built this castle. The guide took us to the Vestibule. It was richly decorated by colorful paintings. The Chandeliers were made of painted wrought iron and along the walls are heavy carved benches of oak, covered by bolsters of impressed hog skin. The